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29 September 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: H.R. 14545, A Bill to amend section 319 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit naturalization for certain employees of United States non-profit organizations engaged in disseminating information which significantly promotes United States interest, and for other purposes.

1. Representative Rodino called the undersigned during the morning and requested that, if possible, an approach be made to Representative Feighan during the day to persuade him not to insert the names Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty into the bill. Mr. Rodino advised that he well understood the need for avoiding the naming of these two entities but that for some reason Chairman Feighan now felt that the names should be included. Mr. Rodino requested that the undersigned contact the Committee Counsel, Mr. J. Garner Cline, and make whatever arrangements might be necessary. He also indicated that it would be well worthwhile if General C. Rodney Smith, if available, be included in on the meetings.

2. At Mr. Cline's request, the undersigned and General Smith first met with Mr. Cline and Mr. Neil Larry, Liaison Officer with the Committee from the Immigration and Naturalization Service. In order to tidy up the language of the bill, which in Mr. Cline's opinion was the basic objective of Chairman Feighan and certain other members of the Committee, insertion of the phrase "who holds a valid re-entry permit" after the words, "any person" in the lead sentence was agreed upon. Although much discussion was had on the point in each of the succeeding meetings during the day, the additional language will hold the addition of the words, "who holds a valid re-entry permit", and appears reasonably satisfactory to all parties.

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3. General Smith, Mr. Cline, and the undersigned next met with Representative Rodino in the Speakers Lobby after calling him from the floor of the House and reviewed with him the meeting previously held with Mr. Larry. Representative Feighan was then called from the floor.

4. Chairman Feighan had many questions for General Smith and many comments on the need for guidelining the language. Conversation during this meeting was primarily between General Smith and the Chairman and on the surface was quite friendly with Representative Feighan claiming that he was only playing the role of "devil's advocate" for the moment to insure the best bill possible. Rather extensive discussion resulted on the question of when the Subcommittee might meet again to take up this bill with tentative agreement between Representatives Rodino, Feighan and Mr. Cline that next Tuesday morning, 4 October is the earliest that such a meeting can be scheduled. General Smith indicated that he would be all too pleased to return to Washington if his presence were desired for the Subcommittee meeting.

5. Mr. Cline, General Smith and the undersigned next met with Representative Arch Moore, ranking member of the Immigration and Nationality Subcommittee. The purpose of this meeting was identified to Representative Moore to allow him to present any questions he might have directly to General Smith, who was in the city in the anticipation that there was to be a Subcommittee meeting. Representative Moore was also advised that the General had previously met with Representatives Rodino and Feighan. There was a rather lengthy discussion of the bill and the needs of RFE/ Radio Liberty between Representative Moore and the General, which resulted in a noticeable rapport between these two gentlemen. (In each of the meetings, the General not only appeared to enjoy meeting with each of the members, but his presence as well as his responses to questions helped carry each meeting into a rather friendly mood). Representative Moore thanked the individuals for coming by and indicated that he now feels he has sufficient information to field the various questions that might come into the Committee and the floor. Providing no further interference is encountered from non-related Committee problems between now and next Tuesday, it is believed that Representative Moore will support the bill in Committee.

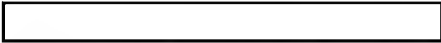
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6. A final meeting was had with Representative William Cahill, the General, and the undersigned. Representative Cahill had several pointed questions to satisfy himself that the problems for resolution in this bill related only to immigration and nationality. Once satisfied on this point, he thanked the General very much for coming by and indicated that he had not understood the bill in this fashion previously.

7. In meeting again with Mr. Cline, it was ascertained that some possibility existed for a Committee meeting tomorrow morning, Thursday, 29 September, if the House does not begin its session until 11:00 or 12:00. It was agreed, therefore, that General Smith would stay until morning to be available in the event a meeting could be scheduled.

8. On Thursday morning, the House began its session at 10:00. After consulting with Mr. Cline, the General was advised not only that there would not be a meeting this morning but as a result of the meeting with the key members of the Committee, it is anticipated at this time that the General's presence will not be required next Tuesday. Mr. Cline has copies of the General's prepared statement that can be provided the other members who were not seen yesterday.

  
Assistant Legislative Counsel

JGO:kef

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H.R. 14545

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